Construction work of railway hotels

†554. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work has been started in those 100 stations which have been selected by his Ministry in the country to enter into hospitality sector;

(b) by when these hotels would be available to the public for use;

(c) whether any provision has been made so that common man can also benefit from them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 100 Budget Hotels sites have been identified. Out of them tenders for 20 sites have been finalized & tender for 10 sites have been floated and remaining 70 sites are under finalization. After finalization of contract, singing of Agreement and completion of construction work of the Budget Hotel, the same will be opened for passengers.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 25% of total rooms are priced at less than Rs. 1000/- (inclusive of all taxes).

Railway schemes to be started during Eleventh Plan

†555. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major railway schemes to be started during Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the number of schemes proposed for 'Northern Zone' out of them;

(c) whether Railways has made an estimation of the amount to be spent on modernisation and expansion programmes during Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.